



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/618,475

07/11/2003

Frank R. Beckous

WC/478

5305

7590

09/22/2004

W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.
551 Paper Mill Road
P.O. Box 9206
Newark, DE 19714-9206

EXAMINER

PATEL, PARESH H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2829

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/618,475

Applicant(s)

BECKOUS ET AL.

Examiner

Paresh Patel

Art Unit

2829

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2003 and 09 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 July 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The subject matter of this application admits of illustration by a drawing to facilitate understanding of the invention. The informal drawings are not of sufficient quality (e.g. different elements can't be distinguish). Therefore, larger image of current drawings with clear detail of different elements as claimed are required.

Accordingly, replacement drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to this Office action. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action.

No new matter may be introduced in the required drawing.

Specification

Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: specification does not support conductive housing limitation. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Trarzwel (US 5982187).

Regarding claim 1, Trarzwel in fig. 11-13 discloses an apparatus having a coaxial signal contact [91 or 201 or 251] and ground contact [(192,194-195) or (208,202-203) or (254-255,261 or 265)], for mating to a planar device [PCB of lines 38-41 of column 8] having a ground surface [ground pad of PCB] and a signal surface [signal pad of PCB], comprising:

- a) a coaxial connector body [93 or 205 or 255];
- b) said signal contact [see 91 or 201 or 251] disposed central to the coaxial connector body;
- c) said ground contact attached [via solder or adhesive] to the coaxial connector body, said ground contact comprising a main body [192 or 205 or 254,255] and at least one resilient contact member [(194 or 195) or (202 or 203) or (261 or 264)];
- d) said at least one resilient contact member extending substantially radially from said main body [see fig. 11-13]; and

Art Unit: 2829

e) said at least one resilient contact member comprising a tip [(196 or 197) or (tip of 202 or 203) or (tip of 261 or 264)] adapted to make contact with said ground surface of said planar device [lines 38-41 of column 8].

Regarding claim 2, Trazwell discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said apparatus is disposed within an insulating housing [95 with 105] such that the entire apparatus is spring loaded within an insulating housing [lines 50-54 of column 6].

Regarding claim 3, Trazwell discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said apparatus is disposed within a conductive housing [lines 50-54 of column 6] such that the entire Apparatus is spring loaded within a conductive housing [95 with 105].

Regarding claim 4, Trazwell discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ground contact device is disposable and replaceable [because they are connected using solder or adhesive. Also see Pollock et al. (US 4740746) where conductive sleeve 60 is slidably fitting at outer conductor)].

Regarding claim 5, Trazwell discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ground contact device is fixed to said coaxial connector body [see fig. 11-13 during testing].

Regarding claim 6, Trazwell discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said signal contact is fixed within said coaxial connector body [see fig. 11-13].

Regarding claim 7, Trazwell discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said signal contact is spring-loaded within said coaxial connector body [see abstract with fig. 3].

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pollock et al. (US 4740746).

Regarding claim 1, Pollock et al. (hereafter Pollock) in fig. 1-5 discloses an apparatus having a coaxial signal contact [32, 38] and ground contact [62, 60, 68, 66], for mating to a planar device [42] having a ground surface [64] and a signal surface [40], comprising:

- a) a coaxial connector body [14, 46];
- b) said signal contact disposed central to the coaxial connector body [see fig. 2];
- c) said ground contact attached [lines 62-68 of column 3] to the coaxial connector body [14], said ground contact comprising a main body [66 with 68] and at least one resilient contact member [60 with 62];
- d) said at least one resilient contact member extending substantially radially from said main body [see fig. 2]; and
- e) said at least one resilient contact member comprising a tip [62] adapted to make contact with said ground surface of said planar device.

Regarding claim 2, Pollock discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said apparatus is disposed within an insulating housing [46] such that the entire apparatus is spring loaded within an insulating housing.

Regarding claim 3, Pollock discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said apparatus is disposed within a conductive housing [46] such that the entire Apparatus is spring loaded within a conductive housing.

Regarding claim 4, Pollock discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ground contact device is disposable and replaceable [lines 62-68 of column 3]

Regarding claim 5, Pollock discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ground contact device is fixed to said coaxial connector body [see fig. 2].

Regarding claim 6, Pollock discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said signal contact is fixed within said coaxial connector body [see fig. 2].

Regarding claim 7, Pollock discloses the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said signal contact is spring-loaded within said coaxial connector body [see abstract with fig. 2].

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paresh Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-1968. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Tokar can be reached on 571-272-1812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2829

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Paresh Patel
September 13, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Paresh Patel', written over a large, stylized 'X' mark.